

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61F2/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2002/016597 A1 (JOHNSON KIRK ET AL) 7 February 2002 (2002-02-07) figures 1,3 paragraphs '0039!, '0043! ---	1-7, 11, 13-23 8-10, 12
X	US 5 676 696 A (MARCADE JEAN PAUL) 14 October 1997 (1997-10-14) column 15, line 60 - line 67 figure 10 ---	1
X	US 6 368 344 B1 (FITZ MATTHEW J) 9 April 2002 (2002-04-09) figure 5 column 6, line 47 - line 56 column 7, line 9 - line 11 ---	1
	--- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Franz, V

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96/13228 A (SCHNEIDER USA INC) 9 May 1996 (1996-05-09) page 3, line 19 -page 4, line 13 figures 6,7 ---	1
X	US 2002/045929 A1 (DIAZ JUAN-CARLOS) 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18) figures 3,4 paragraph '0041! ---	1
A	US 5 643 278 A (WIJAY BANDULA) 1 July 1997 (1997-07-01) column 4, line 1 - line 29 ---	1-23
A	WO 01/34240 A (ENDOVASCULAR TECH INC) 17 May 2001 (2001-05-17) figure 16 page 28, line 23 -page 29, line 10 -----	1-23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

ational Application No

PCT/EP2004/004975

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2002016597	A1	07-02-2002	US 6743219 B1 EP 1434538 A2 WO 02102284 A2 AU 5774501 A CA 2354367 A1 EP 1181906 A2 JP 2002102357 A SG 91935 A1	01-06-2004 07-07-2004 27-12-2002 07-02-2002 02-02-2002 27-02-2002 09-04-2002 15-10-2002
US 5676696	A	14-10-1997	US 5683449 A US 6660033 B1 US 6416542 B1 US 6464721 B1 US 6592615 B1 US 5993481 A	04-11-1997 09-12-2003 09-07-2002 15-10-2002 15-07-2003 30-11-1999
US 6368344	B1	09-04-2002	AU 5442201 A CA 2393612 A1 EP 1237506 A2 JP 2003518406 T WO 0147436 A2	09-07-2001 05-07-2001 11-09-2002 10-06-2003 05-07-2001
WO 9613228	A	09-05-1996	CA 2201128 A1 DE 69519387 D1 DE 69519387 T2 EP 0788332 A1 WO 9613228 A1 JP 10500882 T JP 3130318 B2 US 5695499 A	09-05-1996 14-12-2000 15-03-2001 13-08-1997 09-05-1996 27-01-1998 31-01-2001 09-12-1997
US 2002045929	A1	18-04-2002	EP 1208816 A2	29-05-2002
US 5643278	A	01-07-1997	NONE	
WO 0134240	A	17-05-2001	US 6702802 B1 AU 1482801 A WO 0134240 A2	09-03-2004 06-06-2001 17-05-2001